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PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Serial Number: 10/821,307 / WN File No. 15999.5

*For Telephonic Interview with Examiner Ling X. Xu**Office: P/1775 GROUP ART UNIT 1775**fax: (703) 872-9306 ph. (571) 272-1546**Scheduled for Tuesday, July 12th at 1:00 PM E.T. (11:00 AM M.T.)*

1. (Currently Amended) A decorative laminate panel comprising:

opposing first and second extruded sheets formed together by a thermosetting process; and

one or more compressible objects positioned between the opposing first and second extruded sheets in a substantially natural conformation; such that;

wherein a corresponding natural diameter of the one or more compressible objects ~~has not changed~~ is substantially maintained when the opposing first and second extruded sheets are formed together in the thermosetting process.

2. (Currently Amended) The panel as recited in claim 1, wherein ~~at least one of the first and second extruded sheets is one of transparent, or at least partially translucent, and opaque material.~~ at least partially translucent.

3. (Original) The panel as recited in claim 1, wherein the decorative laminate panel has a thickness of between 0.25 and 2 inches.

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4. (Original) The panel as recited in claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second extruded sheets comprise extruded PETG having a thickness of between 0.1 inches and 0.50 inches.
5. (Original) The panel as recited in claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second extruded sheets comprise extruded polycarbonate having a thickness of between 0.1 inches and 0.50 inches.
6. (Original) The panel as recited in claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second extruded sheets has a width and length dimensions of approximately 3' x 5', approximately 4' x 8', or approximately 5' x 10'.
7. (Original) The panel as recited in claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second extruded sheets comprises a copolyester that has a melting point between 180° F and 230° F in a pressure range of up to 40 psi.

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8. (Currently Amended) The panel as recited in claim 1, wherein the one or more compressible objects are at least one of thatch, willow reed, bamboo, beans, straw, a tree branch, a tree twig, a bush branch, ~~and a bush twig, or any other object having a natural~~ diameter that is substantially compressed at a critical pressure between about 10 psi and about 100 psi.

9. (Original) The panel as recited in claim 1, wherein a viewable surface of the decorative laminate panel is substantially uniform from one end to the next such that no lakes or air bubbles are exposed.

10. (Currently Amended) The panel as recited in claim 1, wherein the one or more compressible objects ~~substantially ordinarily deform to an unnatural conformation~~ at a critical pressure of less than about 92 psi, such that the one or more compressible objects are viewed as having an unnatural appearance.

11. (Currently Amended) The panel as recited in claim 10, wherein the critical pressure is greater than about 10 psi, such that the one or more compressible objects ordinarily appear to have an unnatural conformation when subjected to the critical pressure of between about 10 psi and 92 psi are viewed as having an unnatural appearance at the critical pressure.

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12. (Original) The panel as recited in claim 10, wherein the unnatural appearance comprises a substantially flattened appearance for the one or more compressible objects when viewed through the a surface view or a cross-sectional view of the panel.

Original Claims 13-33 are cancelled without prejudice.

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34. (Currently Amended) A laminate sheet assembly for use in a thermosetting process comprising:

a first extruded sheet;

~~one or more compressible~~three-dimensional objects arranged ~~against on~~ the first extruded sheet ~~such that air is not significantly trapped between the embedded objects;~~
~~the one or more compressible objects having a critical pressure that is less than 90 psi;~~
and

a second extruded sheet positioned about the one or more embedded objects;

wherein the one or more three-dimensional objects are arranged in a position between the first and second extruded sheet such that sufficient air escapes from between the embedded objects as pressure is increased, such that lakes or air bubbles are avoided in a thermosetting process.

35. (Original) The laminate sheet assembly as recited in claim 34, further comprising a pressure pad positioned about one of the first and second extruded sheets.

36. (Currently Amended) The laminate sheet assembly as recited in claim 34, wherein the first and second extruded sheets comprise ~~extruded~~ PETG sheets.

37. (Currently Amended) The laminate sheet assembly as recited in claim 34, wherein the first and second extruded sheets comprise ~~extruded~~ polycarbonate sheets.

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38. (New) A decorative architectural resin panel comprising:

first and second extruded resin sheets formed together about with one or more pressures, at least one of the one or more pressures being equal to or greater than a critical pressure at which one or more three-dimensional objects ordinarily collapse to a substantially unnatural conformation; and

an image layer positioned between the first and second extruded sheets that are formed together, the image layer comprising the one or more three-dimensional objects in a substantially natural conformation;

wherein the one or more three-dimensional objects of the image layer maintain an appearance of the substantially natural conformation despite having been subjected to the critical pressure.

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39. (New) A decorative architectural panel comprising:

one or more visible image layers that include one of thatch reed or coffee bean;
and

corresponding at least first and second extruded resin sheets formed together
about each of the one or more image layers, such that the one of thatch reed or coffee
bean maintain a substantially natural dimension that can be seen through a cross-sectional
or surface view of the decorative architectural panel.